



Department of Justice

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CEDAR FALLS NAVY RECRUITER PLEADS GUILTY TO ATTEMPTING TO RECEIVE CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

(Cedar Rapids, IA) United States Attorney Matt M. Dummermuth announced today that a Navy recruiter from Cedar Falls, Iowa, who attempted to receive child pornography pled guilty today in federal court in Cedar Rapids.

BRIAN CHRISTOPHER HOOVER, 31, from Cedar Falls, was convicted of one count of Attempted Receipt of Child Pornography.

At the plea hearing, **HOOVER** admitted that, in October 2006, he used the Internet to order two films of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct. The films **HOOVER** ordered were described as being filmed in underground brothels in Eastern Europe and Central America.

HOOVER mailed his payment to a Maine Post Office Box and requested the films be sent to the Navy Recruiting Station where he worked in Waterloo, Iowa. In November 2006, **HOOVER** was arrested after receiving the package he believed to contain the films he ordered.

"Child pornography cases are always serious and disturbing," said Dummermuth. "The fact that a federal employee was using his office to attempt to receive child pornography makes this case all the more distressing."

HOOVER was taken into custody after his guilty plea and will remain in custody pending sentencing. Sentencing before United States District Court Judge Mark W. Bennett has been set for 3:00 p.m. on May 17, 2007, in Sioux City. **HOOVER** faces a possible sentence of not less than 5 years' nor more than 20 years' imprisonment. He also faces a \$250,000 fine, a \$100 special assessment, and supervised release for 3 years up to the remainder of his life. He will also be required to comply with the sex offender registry laws in the state in which he resides.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Sean R. Berry and was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service.

This case was filed as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, United States Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, and to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.